



Editorial

Norman Goldstein MD
Editor, Hawaii Medical Journal

Medical Photography

Every physician's office should have a camera: digital, Polaroid, or 35mm. A digital will suffice for most practices.

Clinical photos of patients augment the patient record, physical findings, scars, contractures, range of motion, congenial anomalies and acquired abnormalities. Anything relevant to the patient's condition can be recorded digitally for reference.

The advantages of digital photography are becoming realized, and the price of digital technology is low. Clinical photos can be sent to anyone who has e-mail. Most physicians, laboratories, clinics and radiology departments do have this capacity. Over a decade ago I presented a paper, "A fax in your future?"¹ It predicted that laboratory and x-ray reports would be faxed to doctors' offices. At that time, very few fax units were in use.

When a photograph accompanies a biopsy specimen with a description of the lesion, pathologists are very appreciative. It makes better medicine to have visuals accompany a specimen as well as the history you provide.

Polaroid prints are comparatively more expensive, but are sharper and the colors more accurate. Thirty-five millimeter slides are less costly and, of course, can be used for lectures as well as records; but the digital camera has the greatest potential for copying to the pathologist, for preparation in PowerPoint presentations, as reprints for charts, and its ease of enlargement and editing for paired comparison purposes. With digital photography there is no film, no developing, and it's easy to archive your photographs on CDs if your personal computer has a CD burner.

Put a good digital camera in your office, and get one for your personal use to become more familiar with its advantages.

And, no I don't own stock in the camera companies.

Reference

1. A fax in your future? *Hawaii Medical Journal* 47, 5, 238-239 May 1998

**Hawaii
Poison
Center**

941-4411

Neighbor Islands Toll Free

1-800-362-3585

**Children
Act Fast
So Do
POISONS!**



More than 40 years of service • Donate to help us save lives



Aloha Laboratories, Inc.
...When results count

**CAP accredited laboratory
 specializing in Anatomic
 Pathology
 Quality and Service**

David M. Amberger, M.D.
Laboratory Directory

Phone: (808) 842-6600

Fax: (808) 848-0663

E-Mail: results@alohalabs.com
http://www.alohalabs.com

**WE COLLECT PAST
 DUE ACCOUNTS**

**Only 25%* fee for Health
 Care Firms!**

Why give up more!

Monitor Accounts Online



Wood & Tait

HI Collection & Detective Agency
Staff on Kauai, Oahu, Maui, & Hawaii
http://www.woodtait.com

739-0433

jwood@woodtait.com

*Applies to accounts assigned during this promotion; no restrictions as to dollar size or age of accounts. Fee will increase to 50% if litigation or forwarding required; you will receive a contract.

**The Heart
 of Caring**

**is the art of
 quality healthcare.**



RNs LPNs NAs MAs
**Relief Staffing for Facilities,
 Offices, & Private Duty**

Call 24 Hrs: 951-0111
NeighborIslands: 800-773-9021
Serving all Islands since 1982